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# CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

## TELETYPE INFORMATION REPORT

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<b>CLASSIFICATION</b> <div style="text-align: center; margin-top: 10px;">S-E-C-R-E-T</div>	<b>DISSEMINATION CONTROLS</b> <div style="text-align: right; margin-top: 10px; font-size: 1.2em;">3014915</div>
<b>COUNTRY</b> BULGARIA	<b>1 NOVEMBER 1956</b> <span style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 0 5px;">X</span>
<b>SUBJECT</b> FURTHER BULGARIAN REACTIONS TO POLISH AND HUNGARIAN REVOLTS	

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1. IN DISCUSSING KHRUSHCHEV'S POLICIES, CERTAIN BULGARIAN OFFICIALS EXPRESSED THE FOLLOWING OPINIONS: "KHRUSHCHEV HAS CONFUSED RATHER THAN SETTLED MATTERS HE SPOKE FOOLISHLY IN ENGLAND AND INDIA. SOME BULGARIAN PEOPLE ARE FINDING IT DIFFICULT TO DETERMINE WHEN HE IS TELLING THE TRUTH AND CANNOT BE EXPECTED TO BELIEVE HIM."

2. THE SAME OFFICIALS MADE THE FOLLOWING COMMENTS WHILE DISCUSSING THE SERIOUSNESS OF THE HUNGARIAN REVOLT: "THE BULGARIAN LEADERS ARE THE ONLY PERSONS IN BULGARIA WHO CANNOT UNDERSTAND THE SITUATION. IT WOULD BE TERRIBLE IF A SIMILAR REVOLT SHOULD TAKE PLACE IN BULGARIA. MEANWHILE, THERE IS MUCH DISCONTENT AMONG THE WORKERS: AVAILABLE BREAD IS STALE. GOMULKA SAID, 'SOCIALISM CANNOT BE BUILT ON PEOPLE'S BACKS,' HOWEVER, THE BULGARIAN LEADERS BELIEVE IT CAN; 15 TO 20 PEOPLE ARE INDICTED FROM EACH VILLAGE AS KULAKS, ALTHOUGH THEY OWN LITTLE LAND; COOPERATIVES ARE FORBIDDEN TO SELL THEM DAILY NECESSITIES; POSTAL SERVICE ~~EXTENDED~~, AND PEOPLE ARE DISCOURAGED FROM SPEAKING TO THEM."

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THE BULGARIAN PEOPLE ARE VERY PATIENT, BUT ARE FIERCE WHEN THEY ERUPT. PARTY LEADERS WANT EVERYBODY TO THINK AS THEY DO, BUT THERE IS NO DEMOCRACY IN THE PARTY, MUCH IS SPOKEN ABOUT DEMOCRACY, BUT NOTHING IS DONE ABOUT IT. CORRECTIVE MEASURES SHOULD BE TAKEN IMMEDIATELY IN ORDER TO AVOID A SITUATION SIMILAR TO THAT IN HUNGARY. THE OPPOSITION, IN AND OUT OF BULGARIA, WILL EXPLOIT THE DISCONTENT IN THE COUNTRY AND WILL WAIT FOR THE RIGHT MOMENT TO ACT."

FIELD COMMENT: THESE BULGARIAN OFFICIALS WERE OBVIOUSLY RATTLED WHEN THEY FIRST HEARD ABOUT THE POLISH AND HUNGARIAN EVENTS AND PERHAPS OVEREMPHASIZED THE POSSIBLE ACTIVE UNREST IN BULGARIA.

3.

THE AVERAGE BULGARIANS PRAISED THE POLES AND HUNGARIANS AND WERE PLEASED WITH THEIR ACTION. THEY FIRST LEARNED OF THE POLISH SITUATION FROM NEWSPAPERS AND THE RADIO, BUT EVENTS WERE GREATLY MINIMIZED AND NOTHING WAS REPORTED ABOUT ANTI-RUSSIAN ACTIVITIES. THE PEOPLE LISTENED TO RADIOS OTHER THAN SOFIA AND BELIEVE THAT MUCH MORE OCCURRED THAN THE BULGARIAN GOVERNMENT ADMITS. THEY FELT THAT THE HUNGARIANS AND POLES HAVE REACHED THE LIMIT IN THEIR SUFFERING. THEY COULD NOT SAY THE SAME FOR THE BULGARIANS, WHO THEY FEEL SUFFER LESS AND HAVE AN EASIER POLITICAL SITUATION. THEY CITED THE ABSENCE OF SOVIET TROOPS IN BULGARIA AS AN EXAMPLE.

4.

THE BULGARIAN PEOPLE IN VARNA ARE NO LONGER AFRAID TO TALK OPENLY, WHICH WAS NOT THE CASE IN 1955. WHEN ASKED WHAT THE BULGARIAN PEOPLE PLAN TO DO NOW THAT THEY HAVE HEARD OF THE POLISH AND HUNGARIAN SITUATION, THE USUAL ANSWER WAS: "OUR PEOPLE DO NOT HAVE THE SPIRIT; WE SHALL PROBABLY BE THE LAST TO REVOLT AND THEN ONLY IF WE ARE 100 PERCENT SURE OF SUCCESS." THE WESTERN OBSERVER

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BELIEVES THESE STATEMENTS REFLECT THE GENERAL ATTITUDE AT THE PRESENT TIME, DESPITE THE FACT THAT MOST BULGARIANS INTENSELY DISLIKE COMMUNISM AND THE SOVIETS.

5.

ALTHOUGH THE POPULATION AND 50X1-HUM

GOVERNMENT CIRCLES IN BULGARIA SHOW NERVOUSNESS AND ANXIETY CONCERNING THE POLISH AND HUNGARIAN DEVELOPMENTS, THERE ARE NO INDICATIONS THAT DISTURBANCES IN BULGARIA ARE IMMINENT. 50X1-HUM

END OF MESSAGE

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